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EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

OF THE

TOWN OF EXETER, N. H.,

FOR THE

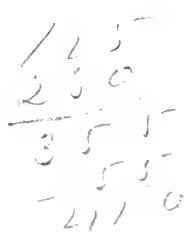
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1876,

WITH THE REPORTS OF THE

CHIEF ENGINEER, THE TREASURER OF THE ROBINSON FEMALE SEMINARY, THE TOWN LIBRARY COMMITTEE AND THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

EXETER:
NEWS-LETTER PRESS.
1876.

University of New Hampshire
Library



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TOWN OFFICERS.

SELECTMEN,

WILLIAM B. MORRILL, Treasurer,
NATHANIEL G. GILMAN,
OLIVER L. GIDDINGS.

TOWN CLERK,

WILLIAM H. BELKNAP.

COLLECTOR OF TAXES,

JOSEPH N. HEAD.

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

ALBERT C. PERKINS,
CHARLES BURLEY.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE,

BRADBURY L. CILLEY,
CHARLES MARSEILLES,
B. MARVIN FERNALD.

LIBRARIAN,

ANNIE PALMER.

AUDITORS.

JEWETT CONNER,
WILLIAM M. HUNNEWELL.

JANITOR,

ROBERT CARTER.

ENGINEERS,

BENJAMIN L. MERRILL, Chief,
JACOB CARLISLE,
CHARLES LANE,
ANDREW J. FOGG,
GARDINER GILMAN,
SAMUEL S. THING, Clerk.

POLICE OFFICERS,

WOODBRIDGE O. PERKINS,
JOHN CONNER,
EDMUND THURSTON,
EZRA S. DURGIN,
FREDERICK PALMER,
MADISON SLEEPER,
WOODBURY BERRY.

EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS
BY THE SELECTMEN,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1876

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Town Bonds and coupons,	$4,720 00	
Notes and interest,	3,323 38	
Settlement of George W. Staples' suit,	550 00	
Collector of taxes,	340 00	
Amy Burlingame, land damages,	110 00	
Joshua Getchell, " "	100 00	
Harriet P. Harris, " "	50 00	
School House tax, district No. 5,	100 00	
N. Woodman, sheep killed by dogs,	17 00	
Heirs James J. Wiggin, land damage,	76 00	
Ann M. Porter, land damage,	5 00	
Soloman J. Perkins, gravel pit,	50 00	
Non-resident highway taxes worked out,	1 02	
		$9,442 40

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid Prudential Com., Dist. No. 1,	$6,274 18	
" " " No. 3,	180 09	
" " " No. 4,	177 38	
" " " No. 5,	286 09	
" " " No. 6,	179 73	
		$7,097 47
Appropriation, Literary fund, &c.,		7,097 47

TOWN LIBRARY.

Paid Library Committee,	$500 00
Appropriation,	500 00

EXETER GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

Paid W. W. West, superintendent,	$295 75	
Balance unexpended,	354 25	
		$650 00
Appropriation,		650 00

STATE TAX.

Paid Solon A. Carter, State Treasurer,	$4,900 00
Appropriation,	4,900 00

COUNTY TAX.

Paid George E. Lane, County Treasurer,	$4,561 95
Appropriation,	4,566 95

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid Engineers,	$90 00
Fountain No. 1,	636 00
Union No. 2,	473 00
Eagle Steamer No. 1,	384 00
Hook & Ladder,	233 00
Pioneer, No. 1,	136 00

Paid James Boyd & Son's, Hose,	253 43
E. O. Lovering, Coal,	90 59
Andrew J. Fogg,	77 75
E. Charlesworth,	50 00
Crockett & Downing,	30 00
Samuel Eastman & Co.	25 50
Ivan T. Purinton,	22 00
C. A. Larrabee,	15 75
Stephen Dudley,	13 00
C. K. Fifield,	11 00
Daniel O'Neil,	1 50
Charles Lane,	8 00
James T. Watson,	6 75
John Conner,	4 00
George W. Gadd,	2 00
Porter & Thyng,	4 82
Patrick Fitzgerald,	8 00
Samuel B. Dyer,	5 20
E. Charlesworth,	2 50
James Rundlett,	1 00
Joseph N. Head,	8 00
Warren Colbath,	8 50
Dennis Murphy,	5 25
George H. Carter,	2 00
Exeter Manufacturing Co.	1 00
Jeremiah Kerrens,	3 50
George L. Morse,	6 00
John H. Kimball,	2 00
S. S. Perkins,	2 00
Horace M. Carlisle,	6 00
John C. Dutch,	9 00
Hugh Farren,	5 00
C. D. Towle, 1874,	60 00
C. D. Towle,	100 00
Brown & Warren,	50 00

Paid Charles French,	4 00	
Samuel Eastman & Co.,	125 00	
Steele & Carlisle,	43 80	
E. Folsom & Co.,	28 65	
A. Merrill & Sons,	3 75	
Jere Carter,	2 00	
J. O. Hollis & Co.,	4 50	
Merrill Brothers,	18 35	
Merrill Brothers,	17 19	
		$3,106 28
Appropriation,	1,200 00	
From contingent fund,	1,906 28	
		$3,106 28

HIGHWAY, BRIDGES AND SIDEWALKS.

Paid Oliver L. Giddings, String Bridge,	$774 85
" " " " "	205 50
Sanborn, Hilliard & Co, lumber,	243 26
Stetson & Pope,	192 08
Town of Brentwood ½ expense Bridge,	191 96
Oliver L. Giddings,	155 75
John W. Hall, on account,	125 00
Jewett Conner, lumber and breaking roads,	97 02
John Tilton,	92 00
William Burlingame,	73 24
E. O. Lovering,	70 91
Joseph R. Staples,	68 50
Brown & Warren,	64 25
Alvin Wiggin,	56 00
L. B. Smith, breaking roads,	69 25
Joseph F. Clark, " "	60 00
John Flood, " "	51 25
Eben Swasey, " "	41 00

Paid William Philbrick,	breaking roads,	30 25
James W. Moulton,	" "	24 50
William Carey,	" "	23 25
Christopher Elliot,	" "	21 75
B. J. Perkins,	" "	20 95
John F. Towle,	" "	12 50
John H. Kimball,	" "	10 50
Joseph W. Colbath,	" "	6 00
Joshua Getchell,		48 15
Noah Barker,		39 00
William Carey,		38 37
John Flood,		71 00
Charles H. Flood,		45 00
B. & M. Railroad,		37 08
Christopher Elliott,		40 50
John Flanagan,		28 00
William S. Brown,		25 50
John Gilman,		21 00
Weeks & Staples,		21 00
Noah Barker,		20 00
Porter & Thyng,		21 53
Clark Brothers,		19 00
Alvin Wiggin,		17 00
William Conner, gravel,		15 25
John T. G. Haley,		14 79
Stetson & Pope,		13 35
Samuel Holmes,		10 12
George A. Carlisle,		10 00
Edmund Elliot,		13 39
B. A. Ellison,		7 36
B. G. Kelley,		4 00
Joseph R. Staples,		3 50
Andrew J. Currier,		4 00
J. W. Robinson,		2 50
Joseph F. Clark,		1 75

Paid B. & M. Railroad,	1 05	
John W. Hall,	6 00	
Building Committee, Engine House, Bricks,	125 00	
James W. Brown,	87 00	
A. Merrill & Sons,	38 26	
Nancy G. Lovering,	4 00	
E. Batchelder,	20 00	
Dan'l Smith, Breaking Roads, &c.,	29 44	
		$3,694 41
Appropriation,	$300 00	
From contingent fund,	3,394 41	
		3,694 41

POLICE AND CONSTABLES.

Paid W. O. Perkins, 1874,	$63 66
Alva Wood, rent,	50 00
Woodbury Berry, Police officer, 1874,	27 00
I. M. Watson, Jailor 1874,	26 25
Alfred A. Foss, notifying Town Officers and special poliece,	25 00
Woodbridge O. Perkins, Police officer,	40 00
Ezra S. Durgin, Police officer,	41 50
Edmund Thurston, " "	48 00
John Conner, " "	39 50
Madison Sleeper, " "	15 50
Woodberry Berry, " "	15 25
Frederick Palmer, " "	27 60
Charles E. Davis, special Police,	6 00
C. K. Fifield, " "	6 00
Horace B. Cobbs, " "	4 00
Patrick Brothers, " "	6 00
Sewell L. Day, " "	6 00

Paid A. J. Currier, special Police,	6 00	
B. G. Kelley, " "	6 00	
John W. Hall, 1874,	6 00	
I. M. Watson, 1874,	6 50	
B. A. Ellison,	4 00	
Orville R. Drew,	3 00	
W. S. Brown, labor,	6 00	
Fred A. Giddings, labor,	3 00	
S. F. Emerson, stove,	4 00	
Wm. S. Brown, labor,	3 00	
Exeter Gas Light Co.,	3 40	
John C. Dutch, wood,	3 00	
E. S. Durgin, 1874,	17 58	
		$518 74
From County of Rockingham,	$179 50	
Contingent fund,	339 24	
		$518 74

EXPENSES OF TOWN HALL.

Paid Robert Carter,	$199 75	
Gas Bills,	235 97	
E. O. Lovering, Coal,	98 10	
Robert Carter's bill,	30 80	
Balance carried to contingent fund,	58	
		$565 20
Receipts for use of Town Hall,		$565 20

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid Insurance,	$268 75
Brown & Warren, lumber and labor,	205 96
Kelly & Gardner,	156 70
Moses N. Collins Post,	75 00
Woodbridge O. Perkins,	84 15
John Johnston, ringing bell, 1874,	75 00
John W. Getchell,	58 30

Paid I. M. Watson,	81 99
Brown & Warren, work on Lockup, 1874,	70 38
B. G. Purinton,	81 00
L. H. Pinkham,	39 09
C. W. Young, Jr.,	31 50
George W. Furnald,	25 00
Levi G. Towle,	46 00
Averill, Young & Brown,	37 75
C. N. Colbath,	25 55
D. M. Quimby,	25 00
Averill, Young & Brown,	27 25
A. J. Fogg,	21 00
Leavitt & Batchelder,	10 00
Jonathan Dow,	16 00
Ivan T. Purinton,	18 50
M. W. Peirce & Co.,	15 75
Estate of N. Gilman,	15 50
C. G. Conner, Moderator,	15 00
W. H. Belknap,	12 25
E. Batchelder,	13 00
Charles H. Calkins,	9 10
Auditors,	8 00
G. P. Wasson,	7 00
George W. Weston,	5 00
Brown & Warren,	4 00
W. H. Belknap,	4 00
George W. Weston,	4 75
Albert C. Perkins,	3 50
Arthur W. Dudley,	2 00
Telegraph Co.,	1 00
John Conner,	1 00
Charles Lane,	50
School Committee,	80 00
C. D. Towle, 1874,	16 62

Paid C. D. Towle,	31 33	
Assessors,	739 00	
Selectmen,	300 00	
W. B. Morrill,	17 25	
W. G. Perry,	11 25	
Jewett Conner,	7 00	
A. W. Dudley,	15 69	
Leavitt & Towle,	66 00	
Charles Marseilles,	182 00	
A. C. Fowler,	75 00	
Steele & Carlisle,	19 40	
George E. Lane,	29 96	
W. H. Belknap, as Town Clerk,	100 00	
		$3,316 54
Appropriation,	2,200 00	
From Contingent Fund,	1,116 54	
		$3,316 54

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

Paid Insane Asylum,	$120 00
Joshua Getchell, 1874,	141 78
John C. Dutch, wood,	128 00
Jacob M. Towle, board Mrs. Emerson,	82 46
Estate N. Gilman, wood,	68 62
Abby E. Allard, board Mrs. Leavitt,	68 00
John C. Dutch, wood,	57 74
Alva Wood,	50 00
Charlotte Wiggin,	46 71
I. M. Watson, transient, 1874,	40 75
Dr. Ezra Bartlett,	38 25
Porter & Thyng,	34 00
Kelly & Gardner,	29 93
C. N. Colbath,	28 00
Mary White,	22 00
Ammi R. Wiggin,	19 00

Paid Eunice Bickford,	11 62	
Elliot & Dudley,	10 50	
Sarah Pollard,	10 00	
Susan C. Richardson,	10 00	
Clara A. Thurston,	15 00	
W. O. Perkins,	8 30	
W. S. Brown, labor,	3 50	
Estate of N. Gilman, wood,	15 50	
S. W. Leavitt,	5 00	
C. H. Knight,	4 00	
Exeter Gas Light Co.,	85	
C. D. Towle,	9 00	
W. B. Morrill,	27 23	
Overseers,	100 00	
W. G. Perry,	5 00	
F. M. Davis,	4 98	
E. S. Durgin,	16 50	
		$1,236 76
Balance carried to contingent fund,		7 32
		$1,244 08
From County of Rockingham,	444 08	
Appropriation,	800 00	
		$1,244 08

RECEIPTS.

Taxes assessed for 1875, including non-resident, highway and dog taxes,	$29,651 93	
Borrowed money,	2,600 00	
Railroad tax,	2,370 29	
Savings Bank tax,	759 66	
Literary Fund,	281 22	
Insurance tax,	7 50	
United States, rent of Court Room,	200 00	
Rent of Town Hall,	565 20	
County of Rockingham,	623 58	
Coupons,	90 00	
Circus license,	20 00	
Sale of lumber,	18 00	
" " stone,	5 00	
Outstanding taxes,	7,988 06	
Cash on hand,	7,587 44	
Rent of Engine lot,	12 00	
		$52,779 88

RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURES.

Paid State tax,	$4,900	00
County tax,	4,561	95
Town bonds and coupons,	4,720	00
Notes and interest,	3,323	38
Town library,	500	00
Exeter Gas Light Co.,	295	75
Collector of Taxes,	340	00
George W. Staples,	550	00
School House tax, District No. 5,	100	00
Nathaniel Woodman,	17	00
Harriet P. Harris,	50	00
Joshua Getchell,	100	00
Amy Burlingame,	110	00
Heirs of James J. Wiggin,	76	00
Ann M. Porter,	5	00
Solomon J. Perkins,	50	00
Non-resident taxes worked out,	1	02
Support of schools,	7,097	47
Fire department,	3,106	28
Police and constables,	518	74
Expenses of town hall,	564	62
Miscellaneous,	3,316	54
Support of the poor,	1,236	76
Abatement of taxes, 1871,	173	02
" " 1873,	45	28
" " 1874,	48	00
" " 1875,	165	90
Outstanding taxes, 1869 and 1870,	625	98
" " 1871,	457	04
" " 1872,	578	99
" " 1873,	1,445	30
" " 1874,	2,778	48
" " 1875,	2,467	09
Cash on hand,	4,759	88
		$52,779 88

EXETER, N. H., March 7, 1876.

We the undersigned have this day examined the accounts of the town exhibited to us by the Selectmen, and find them well vouched and correctly cast, and find four thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine dollars and eighty-eight cents ($4,759.88) in the hands of the Selectmen.

JEWETT CONNER,
WM. M. HUNNEWELL, } *Auditors.*

TOWN INDEBTEDNESS.

Town bonds,	$34,500 00	
Notes payable,	13,979 34	
Coupons and interest overdue,	1,300 00	
N. T. Bachelder, land damages,	15 00	
Thomas Schenick,	5 00	
Sundry individuals,	15 00	
Bills outstanding estimated,	1,400 00	
		$51,214 34

ASSETS OF THE TOWN.

Taxes due 1869 and 1870,	$625 98	
" " 1871,	457 04	
" " 1872,	578 99	
" " 1873,	1,445 30	
" " 1874,	2,778 48	
" " 1875,	2,467 09	
School district No. 1, rent,	30 00	
Amount due from N. B. Collins,	1,364 40	
State bonds,	1,500 00	
Cash,	4,759 88	
		$16,007 16

WILLIAM B. MORRILL,
NATHANIEL G. GILMAN,
OLIVER L. GIDDINGS, } *Selectmen of Exeter.*

REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER.

The Chief Engineer of the fire department respectfully submits the following report:

The department as now organized consists of one Chief and five Assistant Engineers, and one hundred and thirty-three men, appointed by the Board of Engineers. Eagle Steamer Company has fourteen men; Fountain No. 1, fifty-five men; Union No. 2, forty-two men; Fire Extinguisher Co., twelve men; and Hook and Ladder Co., ten men.

The Board of Engineers have reduced the last year the number of men belonging to the department from one hundred and forty-nine to one hundred and thirty-three, and are of the opinion that a less number than is now employed on some of the companies would be perfectly efficient. A large share of the arduous part of the firemen's work is performed by the steam fire engine,—believing the department to be with this reduced number of men equal if not better than under the old system of hand engines. The engines and all the apparatus are in good order.

During the last year the department has taken possession of the new houses built for storing the engines and apparatus, which are found to be convenient, well arranged and suitable for the wants of the department.

In the report of the Chief Engineer, made at the last annual meeting, he recommended to the town that a dam be constructed across the brook in the Seminary grounds, to make a pond of sufficient capacity to furnish water to supply the Steam fire engine. I still urge the importance of having

a supply of water at that location for the protection of the property of citizens in that part of the town, and also the Seminary building owned by the town.

During the last year an iron pipe has been laid from the river to the Steamer house to conduct water to supply the engine in case of fire, and to furnish water for the Steamer at the regular meetings of the company. Thus far it works to the satisfaction of the Board of Engineers. It has been suggested that this line of pipe be continued from the engine house through Water street to or near the store of Porter & Thyng, and I would recommend that a committee be appointed to investigate its expediency, and make estimates of cost, and if in their opinion it would be practicable, the Committee be authorized to complete the work.

The department has been called out six times during the year, and has responded with despatch, and the members are deserving much credit for promptness in taking their apparatus to fires and for the careful and orderly return of the same to their respective places of deposit.

B. L. MERRILL, *Chief Engineer.*

Exeter, March 9, 1876.

REPORT OF THE TOWN LIBRARY COMMITTEE,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 11, 1876.

The committee submit the following account of receipts and expenditures for the past year:

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand from last year,	$5 24	
Appropriation voted by the town,	500 00	
Sale of catalogues,	4 60	
Fines,	3 60	
		$513 24

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Librarian's salary,	$125 00	
Insurance,	18 75	
Gas,	8 51	
Binding old books,	8 40	
Stationery and incidental expenses,	32 03	
Replacing old books,	23 53	
New books,	257 16	
	$473 38	
Cash in hands of committee,	39 86	
		513 24

We respectfully recommend that $500 be raised for the support of the library for the coming year and that a committee be appointed by the town to consider the subject of better accommodations for the library and for the citizens who use it.

B. L. CILLEY,
CHARLES MARSEILLES, } *Committee.*

ROBINSON FEMALE SEMINARY.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Exeter:

The Treasurer of the Robinson Female Seminary begs leave to submit the following report of receipts and expenditures for the year ending March 1, 1876.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, March 1, 1875,	$ 2,746 01	
Received Dividends,	13,740 00	
Tuitions,	330 00	
for grass sold,	108 75	
		$16,924 76

PAYMENTS.

Loan account, final payment,		$3000 00
Interest "		354 50
Salaries of Teachers,		7,712 29
Library,		66 00
School Books,		229 36

SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Engineer,	$626 00	
Janitress,	400 00	
Fuel,	521 83	
Gas,	23 38	
Engraving and printing,	102 50	
Advertising,	31 50	
Catalogues,	75 00	
Commencement and class expenses,	40 40	
" Exeter Cornet Band,	50 00	
Repairing and tuning Piano, 1874 & 1875,	14 00	
Chemicals,	8 25	
Breaking roads,	25 00	
Stationery,	40 40	
Sundries,	49 55	
		$2,007 81

SCHOOL FURNITURE.

Apparatus,	$13 00	
Charts and folio,	23 95	
Expense on Piano to and from Boston,	20 60	
Ladders,	4 95	
		$62 50

SEMINARY EDIFICE.

Insurance for three years,	$450 00	
Repairs on Boiler and Steam pipes,	17 87	
" " Roof,	13 80	
Double Windows,	47 09	
Sundries,	11 83	
		$540 59

SEMINARY GROUNDS.

Trees and Shrubs,	$257 17	
Cartage and labor,	163 86	
Curb Stones and Concrete Walk,	37 60	
Fertilizers, Tools, &c.,	14 75	
Lumber,	6 35	
		$479 73

PRINCIPAL'S HOUSE.

Repairs on Furnace, pump, &c.	14 58	
Painting and paper hanging,	43 20	
Sundries,	1 75	
		$59 53

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Salary of Treasurer,	$480 00	
" " Secretary,	40 00	
Stationery and Sundries,	13 75	
		$533 75
Balance on hand,		$1, 878 70
		$16,924 76

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES BURLEY, *Treasurer.*

To the Town of Exeter:—

At the commencement of the academic year, Prof. Eben S. Stearns received a flattering call from the state of Tennessee, and resigned his position as Principal of the Robinson Female Seminary. Miss Harriet E. Paine was immediately promoted to the head of the institution. Miss Paine having taught in the Seminary, with marked success, was conversant with all its details. She is a lady of quiet and refined demeanor, of good judgment and quick decision, and the Trustees have many words of praise to offer for her untiring devotion to all the duties of the situation. They feel that the Seminary never came nearer reaching the high mark expected of it by its Founder, than since under her charge.

During this year some changes in the course of studies have been introduced, the feasibility of which has been previously considered.

1st. The monotonous drill, on nearly useless parts of grammar and geography have been diminished, and the study of natural sciences introduced in the lower grades.

2d. The Trustees considered that with ample funds at their disposal greater prominence should be given to the studies of Latin, French and German. With this end in view they feel fortunate in having secured the services of two most successful and thorough instructors. Prof. Robert F. Pennell of Phillips Exeter Academy is engaged to give daily instruction in Latin, and Prof. Oscar Faulhaber has charge of the French and German department.

3d. Also the subject of having more of the studies optional has been considered. This is an experiment which is

undertaken with some forbodings as many of the pupils are of so young an age. In many institutions this system is regarded in high favor. It seems to be an ill disposition of time to require scholars who devote but a few years to study to use most of that time in studies in which they have no heart. By this system scholars, not wishing to take the languages can have more exercises in other studies.

4th. In order that the natural sciences should be more fully studied and explained, it is decided to have from time to time, courses of lectures on chemistry and physics, with experiments, by persons specially educated in their several departments. This year Mr. Pope of the school of Technology, Boston, has given very satisfactory lectures in chemistry.

In all these changes the Principal and teachers have given their hearty co-operation.

The same number of lady teachers has been employed as last year.

We feel warranted to say that your daughters can at the Seminary enjoy the best advantages in the country for all branches of a thorough education.

Those young ladies who can attend a part only of the course have now opportunity for greater variety of studies.

The attendance at the Seminary since September, 1875, is as follows :

Whole number of pupils,	206
In the Preparatory Department,	77
" Academic "	65
" Collegiate "	42
Post Graduates,	17
Students of languages, only	5
School committee admitted to youngest grade in Sept.,	27
The whole number of youngest grade,	43
Average age of youngest grade,	12½ years.
No. of scholars from out of town,	20

The finances of the Seminary appear to be in a sound

condition. No changes have been made in the investments, which have all promptly paid their dividends.

The appearances of the Seminary grounds have been improved this year by planting trees, shrubs and flowering plants.

ABNER MERRILL,
GEO. W. FURNALD,
GILMAN MARSTON,
SAMUEL W. LEAVITT,
WM. P. MOULTON,
JOHN E. GARDNER,
} TRUSTEES.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

To the Town of Exeter:—

The Superintending School Committee submit the following report:

In April, 1875, the Selectmen reported the whole number of children between the ages of four and seventeen to be 731.

Highest number reported attending school,	Spring term,	547
" " " " "	Fall "	491
" " " " "	Winter "	463

From which it appears that the number not attending school at all was

In the Spring term	184
" Fall "	240
" Winter "	268

School.	Term Ending.	Teacher.	No. weeks of School.	Whole No. Scholars.	Average Attendance.	No. in Reading and Spelling.	Arithmetic.	Writing.	Geography.
Spring street,	June 25, '75.	Miss Conner.	13	67	54	54	22	13	11
Primary.	Nov. 19, '75.		12	55	43½	55	18	15	14
	Feb. 12, '76.		13	42	31	42	31	16	16
Grove street.	June 25, '75.	Miss Dustin	13	56	49.7	56	32	26	26
	Nov. 19, '75.		12	47	39.8	47	24	23	10
	Feb. 12, '76.		10	40	37.4	40	30	30	
Prospect Hill.	June 25, '75.	Miss Brown.	12	44	36	43	35	25	24
	Nov. 19, '75.	Mrs. Davis.	12	36	33	36	24	18	14
	Feb. 12, '76.		10	33	28.8	33	28	16	14
Hall place.	June 25, '75.	Miss Rowe.	13	50	36	50	40	36	14
	Nov. 19, '75.	Miss Caverno.	12	47	36.5	47	39	23	11
	Feb. 25, '76.		12	43	33.5	43	32	26	10
Plains,	June 25, '75.	Miss Sinclair.	13	77	52.4	62	52	43	32
Primary.	Nov. 19, '75.	Miss Burnham.	12	47	34.7				
	Feb. 12, '76.		10	48	37				
Front street,	Nov. 19, '75.	Miss Chase.	12	26	22	26	18	26	9
Primary.	Feb. 12, '76.		10	18	11.7	18	13	12	5
Dist. No. 3,	June 25, '75.	Miss Trickey.	10	12	10.2	12	7	7	5
Epping Road.		Miss Jones.	10	12	11.2	12	12	11	4
Dist. No. 6,	June 25, '75.	Miss Wingate.	10	14	11	14	11	10	4
Kingston Road.	Nov. 15, '75.	Miss Twombly.	11	20	15.4	20	12	12	5
	Jan. 2, '76.		4	14	13.05	14	11	11	5
Dist. No. 5,	June 18, '75.	Miss Stevens.	9	21	17	21	13	8	11
Hampton Road.	Nov. 10, '75.		9	11	8	11	9	5	3
	Feb. 25, '76.		13	14	10	14	11	7	4
Dist. No. 4,	July 2, '75.	Mrs. Bickford.	11	6	4.5	6	3	2	3
Newmarket Road.	Dec. 31, '75.		14	5	4.36	5	2	2	2
Plains,	June 25, '75.	Miss Haley.	13	41	32	41	41	41	41
Intermediate.	Nov. 19, '75.		12	33	32	36	36	36	36
	Feb. 25, '76.		12	38	35	38	38	38	38
Spring street,	June 25, '75.	Miss Buckingham.	13	49	41.5	49	49	49	49
Intermediate.	Nov. 19, '75.		12	51	44	51	51	51	51
	Feb. 25, '76.		12	52	42	52	52	52	52
Grammar School.	June 25, '75.	Sperry French.	13	52	46	52	52	52	52
	Nov. 19, '75.		12	74	68	74	74	74	74
	Feb. 25, '76.		12	72	67	72	72	72	71
High School.	June 25, '75.	A. Burbank.	13	32	30	32	32	32	
	Nov. 19, '75.		12	32	30.1	32	32	32	
	Feb. 25, '76.		12	33	30.8	33	33	33	

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

In previous reports frequent mention has been made of the condition of the buildings in which our public schools are held. If it be true that the enterprise and general culture of a community finds a good index in the interest shown in public schools and the sacrifices that are made to sustain them, we may well be abashed to find such declarations as the following, which citizens of Exeter have in other years put into school reports:

"*In this room utterly unsuited to its purpose, as a former report said of another schoolhouse, too inconveniently small to tend one baby in * * * fifty to sixty scholars have been packed like herrings in a box with such scanty desk room that but three pupils could write at a time. It is a disgrace to the district, and the parents of pupils attending there should insist upon better accommodations for their children."

"*In the dimness of almost perpetual twilight these children sit for nearly six hours, day after day, and such is the arrangement of the windows that the cross light causes at times a painful distortion of vision. With windows lowered the ventilation is very imperfect and the depressing, enervating effects of the close stifling air is at once apparent. No hygienic fact is more surely demonstrated than that the continued breathing of impure air is a prolific cause of dangerous pulmonary and other diseases, especially in young children."

†"We know of no naughty actions by a portion of our boys and little girls for which they should be penned in the confined and cheerless backyard of the old county building, upon a few rods of dead dirt, with two vile sources from which constantly exhale poisonous odors in close proximity."

Much might be added to the above about the general dinginess and rudeness of furniture, the scanty accommodation in school yards, the imperfect arrangement of outbuildings that makes it indecent for pupils of both sexes to be in the same school, and still less than the whole truth be told.

The north room of the Spring street school-house deserves particular attention. This is 28 feet 7 in. long, 15 feet 7 in. wide and 11 feet 9 in. high, and therefore contains about 5234 cubic feet, with an area on the floor of 446 feet. The building is cold, especially about the floor where the chilly air from the space beneath at times in the winter keeps the temperature below the freezing point. The teacher was re-

*School Report 1871.
†School Report 1873.

quested to take a few observations during the last term for the purpose of ascertaining how much the temperature varied in different parts of the room, and what the difference was between the heat at a point about six feet above the floor, where the thermometer usually hung, and some point on the floor. The observations were made in school hours at times when the room could be warmed so far as the stove provided could warm it at all. The following is the result of the observations:

Jan. 13,	10	A. M.,	6 feet above the floor,		70°;	on the floor,		34°
Jan. 13,	2.30	P. M.,	"	"	68°;	"	"	44°
Jan. 14,	9.30	A. M.,	"	"	68°;	"	"	30°
Jan. 14,	2.30	P. M.,	"	"	70°;	"	"	42°
Jan. 15,	10	A. M.,	"	"	70°;	"	"	33°
Jan. 17,	10	A. M.,	"	"	68°;	"	"	50°
Jan. 22,	9.30	A. M.,	"	"	65°;	"	"	38°
Feb. 3,	9.30	A. M.,	"	"	64°;	"	"	22°
Feb. 9,	9.30	A. M.,	"	"	62°;	"	"	46°

It is thus perceived that the variations in temperature are from 16° to 42° in different parts of the room and that the temperature is at times below the freezing point in some parts of the room, and that at one time it was 10° below.

Careful study has been given by some men during the last few years to the matter of equipment necessary for health in and about our school rooms. In papers read by Dr. Lincoln of Boston, at the meeting of the Social Science Association, in Detroit, last May, some results of this study were brought out. These results are given in view of many tests applied to the condition of air in different school rooms, the amount of carbonic acid and other impurities found, the health of scholars under various conditions, and all data of the kind that could be collected. Some of his conclusions may be here given.

"School-rooms should contain an area upon the floor sufficient to give fifteen square feet to each pupil in Primary schools and twenty feet for pupils more than eleven years old. There should be a cubical capacity of two hundred feet for each pupil in Primary schools and two hundred and fifty for pupils more than eleven years old. There should be the means of renewing the air at the rate of five hundred feet per hour for each pupil and this without admitting dangerous draughts of cold air. The play

ground should contain an area which gives thirty-two square feet for each pupil. School work if performed in an unsuitable atmosphere is peculiarly productive of nervous fatigue, irritability and exhaustion. By unsuitable is meant close air, or air that is hot enough to flush the face, or cold enough to chill the feet, or that is burnt or infected with noxious fumes."

In the school-room above mentioned these requirements are carefully violated. There is an area on the floor of 446 feet, giving 8 7-27 feet to each pupil. A volume of 5234 feet, giving each pupil 97 feet; a space nearly equal to that contained in a box seven feet × seven × two.

If the poison generated in such a confined space were only a quick one that would kill in a week, perhaps something might be done about it. But the evil works slowly. It weakens the system, makes it less able to resist disease, and shortens life. It diminishes the vital energy of every pupil, and renders him more liable to grow up a sickly, scrofulous, consumptive man. Killing by inches with the taints of foul air and the chills of freezing temperature is more fashionable,—it may be more respectable—than throwing children into the Ganges. It is no less unchristian and heathenish; it is even more disgusting. If any one wishes to convince himself in the matter, he has only to go in to school from the fresh air and spend a half hour there towards the close of a session on any cold day. The arrangement makes the business of physicians and undertakers more thriving and keeps down taxes. How it concerns affectionate parents too many have learned from sad experience. It is a ghastly price to pay for education.

President Dwight writing about some parts of New England early in the century says:

"Here while the inhabitants were still living in log huts, they had not only erected school-houses for their children, but had built them in a neat style; so as to throw an additional appearance of deformity over their own clumsy habitations."

A look at Spring street school-house and some of the dwelling-houses in the vicinity, shows how we reverse that state of things.

We present in this connection a comparison between the accommodations furnished in this Spring street school and

those furnished in the Robinson Seminary. We do this not because it is our business to discuss the management of the Seminary in this connection; and certainly not because we think the accommodations there are any too good; we are sure they are no better than they ought to be. But we put some things about these two schools side by side for the sake of showing that in the district school we are far behind what we know is needed; for we believe that the children of parents who are dependent for a living upon their daily work, the children of the poorer and more straitened, ought to have accommodations inferior to none. In heat and light, cleanliness, freedom from indecent exposure, ventilation, and general comfort, what is good enough for the poorest and most neglected child in town is good enough for the child of the wealthiest and most cherished, in any grade whatever. If the north end of the building on Spring street is good enough for the little ones that are sent there, it is also good enough for the Senior class in the Collegiate Department of the Seminary. We shall also see how the frugality of the town when spending money which it pays out of its own pocket, compares with the liberality displayed when spending money which it has received as a charity. In reckoning the cost per scholar in some of the items enumerated, we take the whole number of scholars in each of the schools.

We have already mentioned the fact that in one of the rooms on Spring street the amount of air for each pupil is 97 cubic feet,—less than one-half of what is needed. In the Collegiate room at the Seminary there are at present 760 cubic feet of air for each pupil. If all the seats were occupied there would be 434 cubic feet for each pupil. In the most crowded of the other rooms there are 361 cubic feet for each pupil. In this same room there are a little more than twenty-five square feet of floor space for each pupil, three times as much as is allowed in the Spring street school. It is greatly to be desired that the same means for securing air fit to

breathe could be got in the lower schools before the seeds of weakness are planted which make the children peculiarly susceptible to the ravages of epidemic disease.

We carry this comparison further and present a table showing how much more generously money is spent for the education of our girls above the intermediate schools, than for pupils in those grades. We take for comparison the same Spring street school, combining the Primary and Intermediate grades.

	Robinson Seminary.	Spring Street School.
Whole number of pupils	200	104
Cost of Instruction	$7712 29	$790 00
Cost for Instruction of each pupil	38 56	7 60
Whole cost of fuel	521 83	50 00
Cost of fuel per pupil	2 60	48
Cost of Janitor's services and care of fires	1026 00	7 50
Cost per pupil for Janitor, &c.	5 13	7.2 c.
Whole cost of keeping clean and warm	1547 83	57 50
Cost per pupil of keeping clean and warm	7 73	56
Value of land, buildings and furnishing	$80,000 00	2,000 00
Value per pupil of land, buildings and furniture	400 00	19 23

In the Seminary, pupils in the most crowded rooms have four times as much air as the Primary school scholars. To keep the premises of one pupil in the Seminary warm and clean costs fourteen times as much as is applied for that purpose on Spring street; more than seventy times as much is paid per pupil for janitor's services.

Men in easy circumstances may pass by these statistics as unworthy of attention. It is possible there may be those who are willing the contrast here shown may be made still stronger. When the nuisance becomes intolerable they can put their children under private instruction and save them from the dangers that infest this dismal place. But for the poor the

case is different. They must, many of them, send their children here or nowhere. When we thrust them into a house that in warmth and ventilation compares unfavorably with our jail, it is not to be wondered at if children early in life get the notion that to be poor is worse than to be wicked. If while in school they will steal ten dollars, or after leaving school will murder some school girl outright, as Evans or La-Page did, they will be taken in hand by the public authorities and put into an institution better warmed and ventilated, and more healthful than the school-house which the culture and wealth of Exeter affords to some of our children.

The existence of the Seminary building, erected under the direction of the citizens of the town, is a standing witness to the fact that our people *know* perfectly well the value of large, well lighted, well ventilated school-rooms.

The existence of the unwholesome building on Spring street, in the face of remonstrance which has been repeated year after year, ought to call the attention of parents who value the lives of their children and think them worth saving, to the barriers that shut them out from comfort and decency in the school-room.

Money put into good schools is profitably invested. The better the school the better is the investment. By providing well for the education of the young the value of taxable property is increased and a population attracted and retained that will build up and strengthen any community. Dealers in real estate understand this, and in putting building lots upon the market in new towns are likely to use all means in the first place, to be able to recommend their property by saying that educational advantages are good.

No better class of men can come into a town than skilled mechanics and thrifty farmers. They uniformly carry with them good bodies, brains, and morals. As a rule they are anxious to secure for their children a good education. In many cases their chief aim in life is to raise their children to a condition

of better culture than their own. Suppose one of these men comes to Exeter. He has a family of young children. He has heard that the place is known on account of its schools and expects to find superior advantages even for the youngest. Perhaps he comes from an intelligent and liberal town like our neighbor Hampton, a town which has put more than nine thousand dollars into school-houses within the last three years. If anything can make this man bitterly hostile to us and anxious to get away, it will be the exposure of his little boys and girls to uncleanness, disease and death in the school-houses on Spring street, in Hall place and on the Plains. It is possible for us to abuse our children now by cheating them out of their education, and defrauding them of their dues. Year by year we can count up the money temporarily saved by the process. But a bad day of reckoning must come. We offend the little ones now; by and by they will in consequence be millstones around our necks, dragging us down to unmeasured depths of sorrow.

This matter of school buildings will come up at the District meeting this year, and men will have a chance to say whether they choose to meet needed expenses now, or to pauperize this generation and the next by waiting for some rich man to bestow upon us in charity what it would do us good to pay ourselves.

Sometimes individuals who inherit money or receive gifts of it, are thereby deprived of needful stimulus to exertion, and become powerless, frivolous and petty. People who inherit wealth are seldom great givers. If there is anything analagous to this in the effect of Mr. Robinson's gift to Exeter, it will in the end prove to be a great evil instead of a blessing.

We do not advocate extravagance in school buildings. We believe that the best way is to put up small houses of not more than two or three rooms, one-story in height, and in most cases of not more than one room, and to place them as near as possible to the homes of the people. A large house

makes more show; but it gives opportunity for jobbery in the building of it; it costs more money per scholar; it makes the average distance from home greater; it requires the climbing of stairways—a necessary evil in large cities where land is dear; but a piece of folly in the country where land is cheap,—and it causes the herding of large numbers together in a kind of beastly way that grinds out the individual traits of different pupils.

We give a few estimates of the cost of buildings, made upon what we consider to be good authority. The estimates do not include the furniture, and heating apparatus, which of course vary somewhat according to the wants of different schools; nor the cellar and foundations. There are good wardrobes and ventilators, firm and tight floors, and good workmanship throughout.

Dimensions.	No. of Rooms.	No. of Pupils.	Cash.
20 × 26	1	32	$900
26 × 30	1	48	$1000
*32 × 32	1	46	$1600
*30 × 30	1	46	$1600
26 × 52	2	104	$2600
*26 × 58	2	104	$2800
50 × 30	2	104	$2700
†30 × 70	3	146	$4200

*Varying in cost according to ornament.
†Projection in front 6 × 28; in the rear 6 × 22 feet.

The valuation of Dist. No. 1 is over $1,500,000. If it should this year spend $3000 for a wholesome school-house and grounds, there would be required an outlay of one-fifth of one per cent. of this sum, which would be two mills on a dollar. The man who pays a tax on $10,000 would contribute $20 of this amount and might well consider it a payment in behalf of home missions, at a point where there is most distressing need.

TEACHERS.

The work of instruction has generally been well done. The teachers for the most part have been faithful and industrious and ambitious to excel.

Miss Buckingham and Miss Conner, on Spring Street, and Miss Haley, on the Plains, are teachers well known on account of their faithful and successful work in former years. They have conducted their schools with energy and ability during the past year and deserve great praise for accomplishing such good results in the face of the disadvantage of rooms so badly ventilated and warmed and so much overcrowded. They ought to receive much better pay than they get.

Miss Dustin, on Grove Street, has done excellently. By her tact and skill in management, her study of good methods of teaching, and her ingenuity in applying new devices to awaken interest, she has presented very nearly a model Primary school. The atmosphere of the room is always brisk, and good work is done every day. She has had a great advantage in having a much better building to work in, than most of the other teachers.

Miss Twombly, the teacher in Dist. No. 6, did much better than her predecessor. In Dist. No. 4 the instruction was least satisfactory. The whole number of pupils in this school was 6 the first term, 5 the second. Average number, 4 99-100 and 4 36-100. Wages paid, eight dollars per week. These scholars would be greatly benefited by being in a larger school. If the money spent in sustaining the school could be devoted to carrying pupils into some other district and assisting to pay the teacher there, it is quite probable that it would prove an advantage every way.

We shall need a larger appropriation for the coming year than was made during the year now closing. Some of the schools were closed several weeks before their time, because the money failed. We think there is need of at least one

thousand dollars more. We want to continue the schools their full time; we must provide another teacher permanently for as many scholars as have been accommodated on Front street, and we ought to be in a condition to retain the best of our teachers, who do not receive the market value of their services. To be sure we could secure teachers for less than is now paid, but they would be likely to prove in the end the most expensive. Very likely if we paid but five dollars per week, there would be applications for chances to keep school, but they would come from those whose influence would be degrading and worse than worthless, from men and women who being too lazy to do the work for which they are fitted, seek by dawdling in a school-room to get a maintenance at the public expense. If a district must pay money to such people it would be better to give it at once, but by all means keep them out of the school-room.

The doctrine is a sound one that the teachers in Primary schools deserve as much pay as those in any other grade, and in some places is already acted on. At present ten dollars a week is the largest sum paid to any Primary school teacher. If from this there is deducted five dollars and a half per week for the entire cost of living there remains four dollars and a half a week for self-culture, books, clothing, &c., and an increase of capital. Thus so far as compensation is concerned, we have already raised our teachers to the level of those who do the work of our kitchens, and it is by all means to be hoped that we can do better still.

The increase of a thousand dollars in the appropriation will make taxes heavier. The valuation of our town is $1,900,000 or more. An additional thousand dollars for schools will cost the man who is taxed for ten thousand dollars, five dollars and twenty-six cents, and others more or less, according to their property. Our citizens will show by their votes in town meeting how much they really care about good education, and what amount of money they will, as members of

our body politic and as individuals, devote to the welfare of the rising generation. Three years ago the town took a backward step by reducing the appropriation for schools. By reason of this our tax payers probably think they have a few more dollars in their pockets. But something has by this measure been twisted out of sparely paid teachers; and children, especially children of the poor, have been deprived of a part of their schooling.

We have regretted to see in some instances jealousy on the part of parents about improvements in instruction. The teaching of the sounds of the letters in one of the schools was so different from what was taught when one of the mothers was a little girl, that it was considered of itself a reason almost for keeping children at home. There have been occasional complaints from parents; we have always been ready to hear them, and considered it our duty to investigate them promptly. We have found some individuals so suicidal as to take their children out of school on account of dislike to the teachers. It would be well for all such to remember that by so doing they injure no one but themselves and their children. It is the right of every parent, to have his children well instructed and disciplined in the public school, and if there are defects he has far better remedies than the removal of his children from all chances to attend school anywhere.

We beg of all parents who are dissatisfied with teachers to keep their children in school, and if there is anything wrong, to present their case to teachers and school committee and citizens until the wrong is redressed.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In Mr. French's school there have been several scholars from other districts who have attended without any payment made by the districts from which they come. It would seem to be right that in the future, districts sending pupils to this school should pay for the privilege, especially as the school has already quite enough pupils for one teacher from district No. 1.

The crowded condition of the schools led the committee during the summer vacation to recommend a measure of temporary relief which was adopted by the Prudential committee. Rooms were secured in a dwelling house on Front street near Union street, where there has been a school during the last two terms.

During the year there has been one teachers' meeting for the purpose of comparing methods, the amount of work done and the attention given to the different branches. We believe these meetings should be held more frequently in the future.

We have given our personal attention to every pupil examined for promotion from one grade to another. We have insisted with the most stress upon reading, writing, the power to speak correctly, and a knowledge of the general principles of arithmetic. We have encouraged the giving of more attention to reading and spelling and less to geography, than has been done hitherto. Much time has been thrown away in some of our schools in committing to memory names of many places that are of little importance, and acquiring knowledge which gives no culture, must soon be forgotten, and is of no practical value. The elementary geographies contain about as much as pupils need to know before entering the High school. Time now wasted on the minute study of the geography of foreign lands by young pupils, might be well employed in the study of some natural science like botany or natural philosophy. The elements of these branches can be intelligently mastered by boys and girls ten years old, if there be suitable means of illustration, and acquisitions can be made that will be of living interest almost every day during life.

We have thus touched on some points which we think to be of vital interest to the welfare of our schools. We have given the most space to things that we believe present the strongest claim to the attention of the town. The schools can never be brought to a condition in which they will prosper

without the watch and interest of good citizens from year to year. We think there is material in Exeter out of which to make good schools, and through good schools to make good men. We earnestly urge our fellow citizens to see to it that his material is not dwarfed and stunted through the indifference or negligence of those who alone are responsible for success or failure.

ALBERT C. PERKINS,
CHARLES BURLEY.